

DISPATCH

S-E-C-R-E-T

BOOK DISPATCH NO. 1570

TO INFO	Certain Chiefs of Stations and Bases	HEADQUARTERS FILE NO. 200-4-76
FROM	Chief, OS	DATE 6 NOV 1959
SUBJECT	REDCAP/LCIMPROVE Soviet Diplomatic Courier Reception Committees	RE: "43-3" -- (CHECK "X" ON) MARKED FOR INDEXING NO INDEXING REQUIRED INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ DESK ONLY
ACTION REQUEST	See paragraph 3	

REFERENCE(S)

1. When a Soviet diplomatic courier team arrives at or departs from an official Soviet installation abroad, a delegation, made up of one or more representatives from the local Soviet installation, is present. Defector sources have commented generally on these "reception committees," saying that formerly they were the responsibility of the chief cipher clerk, but at present (1954) they are the responsibility of the consular offices. No defector has stated that the RIS has any particular responsibility for these receptions.

2. The reporting received during recent months shows a wide variance in the composition of these courier escort teams. For example, in one country a lone official, not identified as having any RIS connections, meets the courier teams; in another area, two or more from the service attache offices have met occasional courier teams; in yet another location, the escort team function appears to be assigned on a rotating basis. However, the material on hand is not sufficient to determine:

- Whether the same group meets and sees off the couriers,
- how the escort function is assigned,
- if the information on courier "reception committees" furnished by defector sources in 1954 is still valid,
- if there are GRU couriers, and if so, are they met by GRU escorts (or does the GRU just share in the escort function, as does Foreign Affairs personnel, Trade personnel, etc., all of whose correspondence is carried in the same diplomatic pouch).

3. Since many stations are no longer regularly reporting courier information of this type, the purpose of this dispatch is to request all stations to report, on a continuing basis, details about courier escort teams in order to substantiate or disprove the theory that at least one member of the escort team is an intelligence officer, and to answer the questions set forth in the preceding paragraph. It will be appreciated if these periodic reports are made on at least a quarterly basis, or are included in the bimonthly or quarterly REDCAP round-up prepared by those stations which follow this form of reporting to Headquarters. They should contain the following information:

- The name, rank, overt assignment, and any known or suspected intelligence affiliation of personnel charged with this duty.
- Locale of arrival or departure (airport, train station, is it always the same place?).
- Any unusual or interesting circumstances occurring during the arrival or departure of the courier teams.

The services of liaison may be used to fulfill this request.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

FORM 53b
10-57
(43)

USE PREVIOUS EDITION
REPLACES FORMS
51-28, 51-28A AND 51-29
WHICH ARE OBSOLETE

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PAGE NO.

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